AIM I v3.3 (With Learning Objects) Release Notes

This document is intended as a quick start guide to installing AIM I v3.3. You should read this entire document before proceeding with the installation. It also details some general information about the program that did not make it into the User's Manual.

If you need help with the installation or use of AIM, you should contact the System Support Office (SSO). Contact information can be found in the User's Manual.

Warnings

If you are running SQL Server, make sure you don't update your SQL Server database if you plan on continuing to use AIM I v3.2.1. Contact the AIM SSO for details on how to use both AIM I v3.2.1 and v3.3 on the same computer when connected to SQL Server.

AIM I v3.3 output is not backward compatible with AIM I v3.2.1, i.e. you cannot export a Course from v3.3 and import it into v3.2.1. As such, if you plan on creating/editing Courses in AIM and passing them to other users, you either need to perform this in AIM I v3.2.1, or make sure all users getting your content is also running AIM I v3.3.

Installation Quick-Start

Before you install AIM, you should:

1. Make sure there is a recent backup of your existing AIM database (if you already have a version of AIM installed).
2. If you are planning on installing AIM I v3.3 into your AIM I v3.2.1 directory, consider uninstalling AIM I v3.2.1 first. This is not required, but it will remove any files from your system that are no longer needed by AIM I v3.3.

   To uninstall AIM I v3.2.1, go to your Start Menu, choose *Settings*, and then choose *Control Panel*. When it opens, double-click *Add/Remove Programs*. Highlight AIM I v3.2.1 in the list, and click the *Add/Remove* button.

   Note: Uninstalling AIM I v3.2.1 will NOT delete your existing database files.

3. Write down the location of the AIM directory on the network, if you run AIM from a server (not installed on your local machine).
4. Write down the location of the directory containing the existing AIM database, as well as the name of the associated Graphics directory, if any. If you do not have an existing database, determine where you want to place it (on the network or on your local machine).

   Warning: If you are installing AIM I v3.3 separately from a previous version, you will need to make a copy of your existing Database directory to use with v3.3. If you select your existing v3.2.1 database to be used with v3.3, AIM will convert it to v3.3 format, and it will no longer work with the v3.2.1 software.

To install AIM I v3.3, follow these steps:

1. Insert the AIM I v3.3 installation CD into your CD-ROM drive of your computer.
2. If the AIM I v3.3 installer does not start up automatically, double-click the *My Computer* icon on the desktop, double-click the CD drive icon, and finally double-click the *Setup.exe* icon (if your system does not display extensions of files, then the file will be called just *Setup*).

   Note: Depending on what operating system and software that is already installed on your computer, the installation program may prompt you to reboot your computer one or more times before the

installation program actually runs. This is normal, as it is installing certain key system files required for it to run correctly.

3. Click the *Next* button to navigate past the Introduction screen.
4. The next screen displays the Read Me file for the installer. Make sure you read it through before continuing.
5. The next screen displays the Customer Information screen. You can enter your Name and Company into the appropriate fields. You will also see an option to install it for all users or just the current user. Choose All Users if you want any user on that computer to be able to use the software.
6. The next screen will prompt you for the directory to install the AIM software. Click the *Change* button to select another directory. If AIM will be run from a network server, select the directory where the AIM software is located. Then click *Next*.
7. Finally you need to select which type of installation you want to perform. There are three options:
    - Typical: Choose this option if you are updating AIM, installing AIM on your local drive, or installing it on a server for others to use. This will install all the required elements for AIM to run.
    - Minimal: Choose this option if you are planning on running AIM from a server. This will install on your local machine just the software needed to run an existing copy of AIM I v3.3 already installed on a network directory.
    - Custom: Choose this option if you want to install some of the optional components, for example, the NAVEDTRA 131A manuals in PDF format.

    Note: If you are installing the software on a computer running Windows 2003 Server, you will need to select the *Custom*, and deselect the box marked *Data Access*.

8. Once you've made a selection, click on *Next*. If you chose the *Custom* option, you will now be displayed a list of AIM components to install. Make your selections, then click *Next* one last time.
9. Finally, you've reached the installation summary screen. This summarizes your selections from the previous screens. If you want to change any selection, click *Back*. If all the settings seem correct, click on *Finish*.

The installation will now commence. When it is finished, it may ask you to reboot your computer one last time. Once installed, you can run AIM by double-clicking the icon on the desktop, or by going to the Start Menu and choosing *Programs->AIM I->AIM I*.

Installation Comments:

- AIM has been tested under Windows 2000/XP. For best results and security, you should make sure you're running with the latest Service Packs and patches.
- AIM has not been tested for compatibility with Windows Vista. Currently, the only known issue is that modules (like TCCD, LP, and the Administrative Utility) will open behind the current windows.

Known Issues:

- Due to the installation of several system files, administrative rights are required on the local machine in order to install AIM I v3.3.
- Due to the way AIM now works, you cannot install multiple copies of AIM I v3.3 on one system. However, you can make a copy of the AIM directory, delete the AIM.INI file, and choose another database to use as your AIM database (this can be done so you have AIM icons for a local database and a networked database).
- Even if you do keep two AIM directories on one system, when you launch an AIM module (like LP or Admin), it will be launched from the directory in which AIM was originally installed. Therefore, if you try to put product updates into the copied directory, the updated software will not be used. It will need to be installed in the original directory.

Running AIM for the First Time

The first time you run AIM I v3.3, AIM will perform the following actions:

1. If you used the *Minimal* option when you installed AIM, it will set up AIM to allow it to run from the server.

2. If no AIM.INI file exists in the AIM directory, you will be prompted to specify the database, graphics and media directories. If you already have an existing database, enter the path to that directory. If you do not have an existing database, enter the path where you would want to create one (or leave the default settings as is). If the directory you specify does not contain an AIM database, one will be created for you.

   Note: The installer will never overwrite an existing database with a new one.

3. If you have a previous installation of AIM I, you will be prompted for the location of a new Media directory. This directory is where AIM will store the files associated with the IMIs.

4. If the database needs to be converted to the latest version of AIM, you will be stepped through the process of converting it to v3.3 format.

   Note: You will need to have permissions to create and delete files to both the AIM and database directories in order to convert the database. If you do not have these permissions, see your Network Administrator.

   Warning: Once you've converted your database to v3.3 format, it can no longer be used with any previous versions of AIM. If you still want to use a previous version of AIM, you will need to make a copy of your AIM database directory and select that new directory when setting up the database.

5. If you have Microsoft Word installed on your machine, you will be prompted to enable macros in Word. AIM uses Word macros to allow you to add graphics to your Sheets from the AIM Graphics library.

   a. If you have Word 97 and have Macro Virus Protection turned on in Word's Options screen, you will be prompted to turn this off. You do not have to disable this option. However, every time you open part of the TG in Word, you will be prompted to enable macros in the document.
   b. If you have Word 2000 or greater, you will be prompted to accept the digital certificate attached to the macros. The macros used by AIM are signed to verify the author of the macros. If you accept the certificate (by checking the "Always trust macros from this source" box), Word will not prompt you about macros in AIM documents.

Once these are done, the AIM login screen will display.

AIM Comments:

- The AIM documentation is in Adobe Acrobat format. If you don't already have it installed, the installer for the free Adobe Acrobat Reader is included on the CD.
- The Help menu on the main AIM screen allows access to the On-line help as well as PDF versions of the AIM User's manual, a list of changes made to AIM I v3.3, and a set of Frequently Asked Questions.
- If at any time you want to connect to a different database, just exit AIM and delete your AIM.INI file. The next time you run AIM, it will notice that the AIM.INI is missing and again step you through selecting a database directory.
- AIM now supports use of SQL Server 7 or 2000 as the database engine. SQL Server offers better stability and scalability than the Microsoft Access database engine used by AIM. If you want to upgrade your AIM database to SQL Server, read the file *AIM I v3.3 SQL Server Migration.pdf* found on the installation CD.

Known Issues:

- If you're using Word for editing TG Sheets, and the AIM Graphic or IMI buttons (or associated menu items under the *Insert* menu) within Word cause errors to appear, you may need to update Office with the latest Service Packs. These can be found on the installation CD. If you do not have permission to install the updates, changing your security setting to Medium or Low should also work. To change your security settings, open Word and go to the *Tools->Macros->Security* menu.
- It is highly recommended that you run the latest Service Packs for your version of Microsoft Word.

  Warning: Before updating Office 2000 with a Service Pack, you MUST have the Word/Office 2000 installation CDs used to install Office on your computer. The Service Packs require these CDs during the installation. If you try to install the Service Packs without the CDs, your installation of Word/Office may become unusable.

- AIM does not support versions of Microsoft Word prior to Word 97.
- The Graphics module cannot accept all types of GIF graphics, although some versions of the file format do work. If you have a GIF graphic that AIM cannot read, try saving it in another format (JPG, for example) and then import it into AIM.
- If you add a graphic while on a line formatted with *Bullets and Numbering* option, the added graphic entry will be formatted with the same style. To work around this, remove the style from the insertion point before adding the graphic.
- For spell checking in the HighEditor, the option "Check words in user file" in the Spell Check Options dialog should be turned OFF. The text of this option is unclear. It does not tell the spell check to check the user dictionary, which is handled simply by having the user dictionary, HSPELL.HUE, listed in the list at the top of the dialog. This option pertains to using the Auto-Correction feature of the spell check. Turning this option on can cause some text to disappear during a spell check operation, or, in the worst case, cause the program to freeze.

Using FTP to download AIM patches

FTP (File Transfer Protocol) has been around for a long time, much longer than HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) that is used widely on the internet. Its purpose is to allow you to login to a protected area of a server to upload and download files. The main reason we're using it now is to distribute patches that are too large to be sent via email. It also allows us to get around security measures that many mail servers have in place that do not allow executable files to be emailed.

There are several ways to access our server via FTP. The most direct way is to use the Command Line (DOS). The picture below shows what an FTP session would look like using the command line. The first and most important thing to notice is that you MUST login under the aimftp account. Some FTP servers are setup to allow what are known as anonymous logins. This is where you don't have an account on the machine. Customarily you are asked to provide your email address as the password. Our server is not setup this way.

The FTP server address is **aim.aimertech.com**. It can also be referenced by its numeric IP address, which is 146.145.253.105. Both the login name and the password are **aimftp.** The examples below show the "aim.aimertech.com" notation, however you can also use the "146.145.253.105" notation.

The following pages describe various methods of accessing the FTP site. Note that the examples use AIM v3.2.1. The same steps will apply to AIM v3.3 as well.

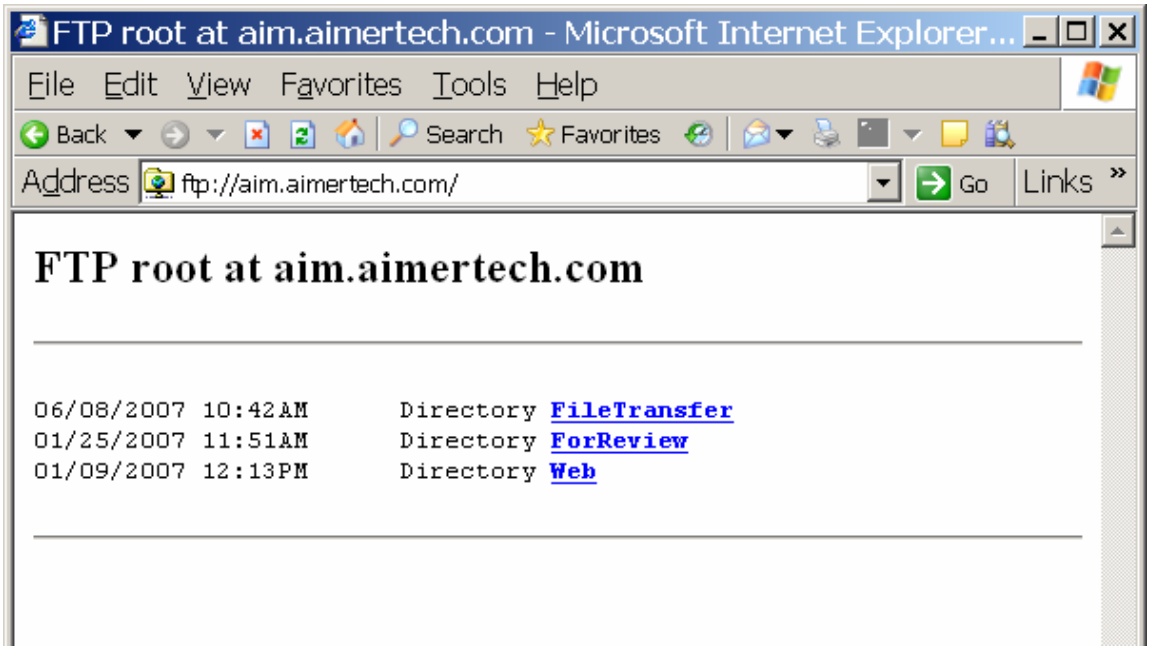
Regardless of how the patch is downloaded, they will need to be installed.. You need to double click on the zip file to extract the update. You will need to tell it where your AIM program files are located on your machine in order to place the files in the correct location. By default, this is:

C:\Program File\AIM I for the AIM I program
C:\Program Files\AIM II for the AIM II program.

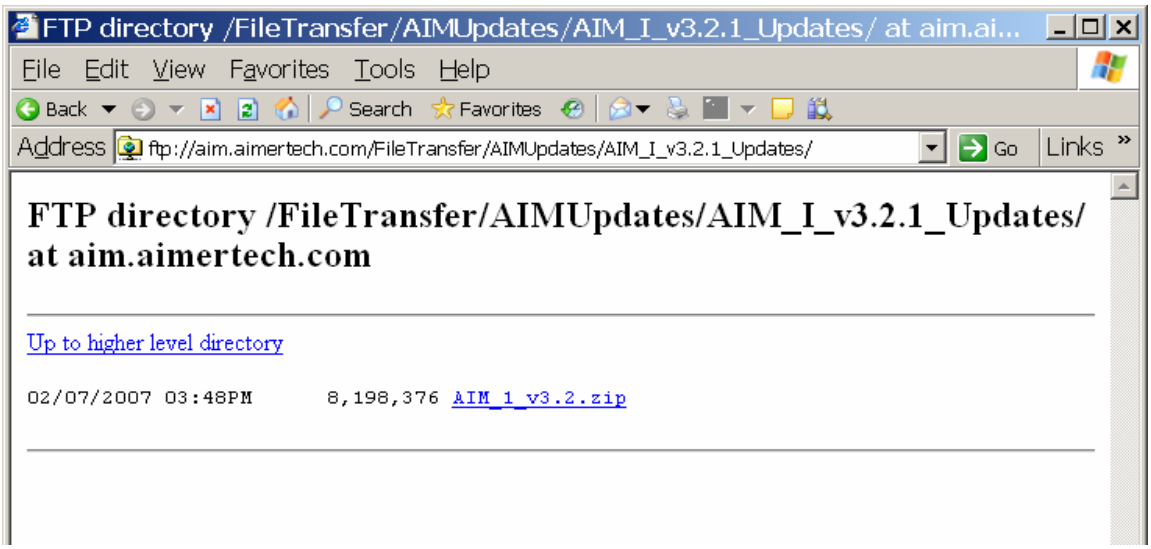
As always, if you have any questions or problems, please contact the AIM SSO at (407) 381-8620 or (DSN 960-8620).

Using Internet Explorer

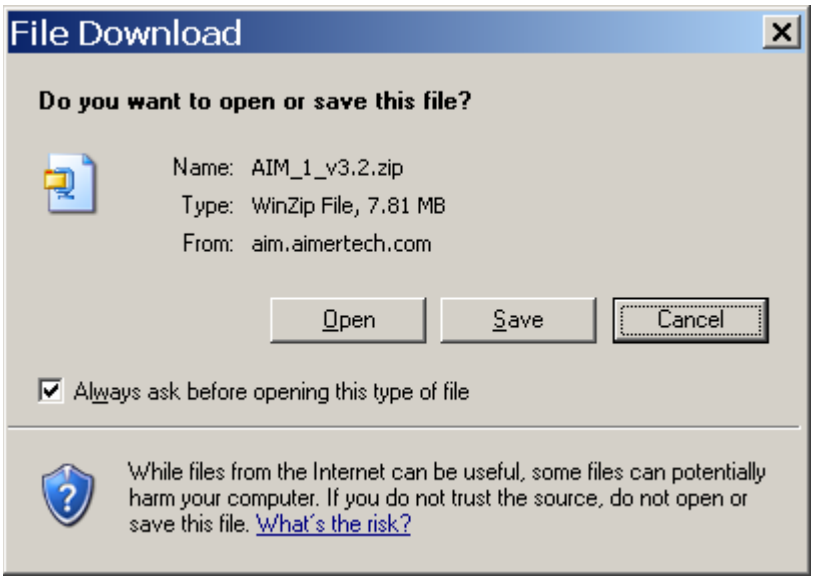
This section details using Internet Explorer (or Netscape) to access the site. These web browsers have the capability to connect to FTP servers. The biggest thing to remember here is that you MUST specify in the URL that you are using FTP, not HTTP. Go to the Address Bar and type the following: **ftp://aim.aimertech.com** (or **ftp://146.145.253.105**). When prompted, enter the user name and password for the site (as mentioned earlier, this is *aimftp* and *aimftp*. If you don't get the login prompt, you can use the *Login As* item under the *File* menu to log into the server.


FTP root at aim.aimertech.com - Microsoft Internet Explorer...
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Back Search Favorites
Address ftp://aim.aimertech.com/
Go Links
FTP root at aim.aimertech.com
06/08/2007 10:42AM Directory FileTransfer
01/25/2007 11:51AM Directory ForReview
01/09/2007 12:13PM Directory Web

Once you are logged in, you will be presented with a "Windows Explorer-like" interface (see above). Click on the link for **FileTransfer**. On the next screen, click the link for **AIMUpdates**. Then click on the appropriate link for the file(s) you are looking for. When you find the file you want, click on the link.

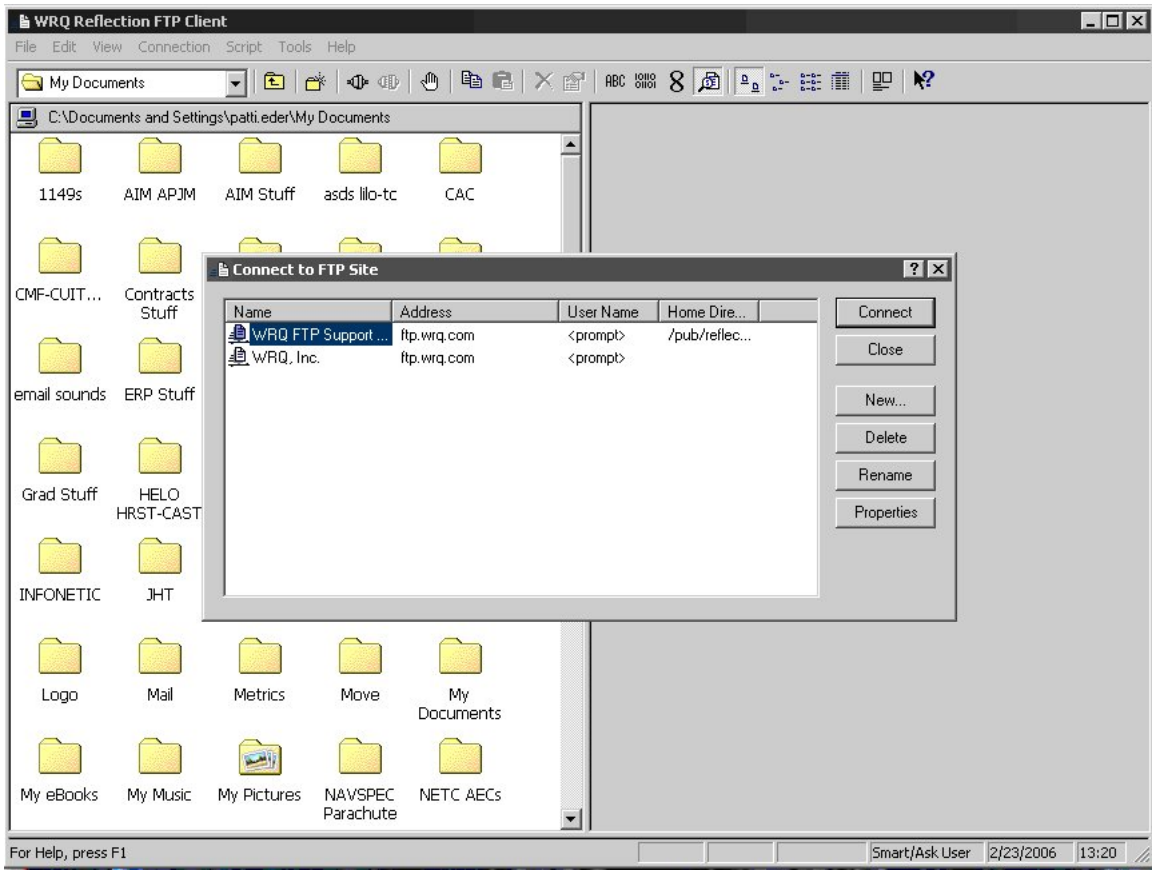

FTP directory /FileTransfer/AIMUpdates/AIM_I_v3.2.1_Updates/ at aim.ai...
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Back Search Favorites
Address ftp://aim.aimertech.com/FileTransfer/AIMUpdates/AIM_I_v3.2.1_Updates/
Go Links
FTP directory /FileTransfer/AIMUpdates/AIM_I_v3.2.1_Updates/ at aim.aimertech.com
Up to higher level directory
02/07/2007 03:48PM 8,198,376 AIM_1_v3.2.zip

You will be presented with the following dialog box, asking if you want to open or save the file. It is best to actually save the file to your hard drive and extract it from there. Click on the "**Save**" button to save the file to your hard drive.


File Download
Do you want to open or save this file?
Name: AIM_1_v3.2.zip
Type: WinZip File, 7.81 MB
From: aim.aimertech.com
Open
Save
Cancel
Always ask before opening this type of file
While files from the Internet can be useful, some files can potentially harm your computer. If you do not trust the source, do not open or save this file. What's the risk?

Using FTP under NMCI

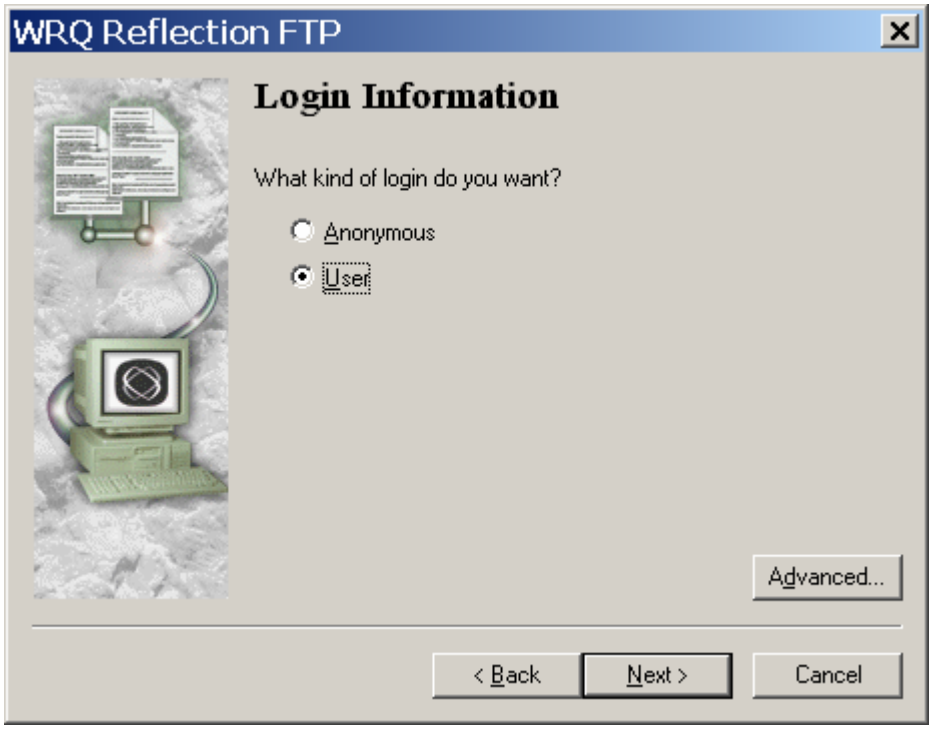
This section deals with how to download via FTP if you are running under the NMCI environment. You will use a program called Reflection FTP Client. To start the program, click on the Start button, and navigate to Programs -> Reflection -> FTP Client. You should see something like the following:



Click on the “New” button. When it asks for the host name, type in **aim.aimertech.com**, then click “Next”.

WRQ Reflection FTP
Add FTP Site
This wizard helps you connect to an FTP server.
What is the host name or IP address of the FTP server?
(e.g., ftp.wrq.com or 150.215.7.2)
aim.aimertech.com
< Back
Next >
Cancel

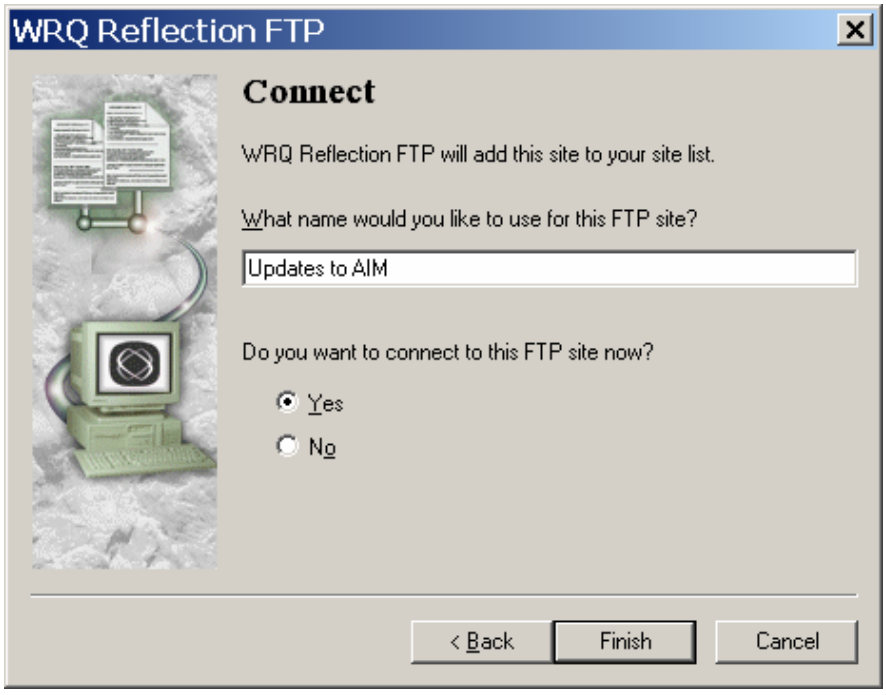
On the next screen, when it asks what kind of login do you want, click “User” and then click “Next”



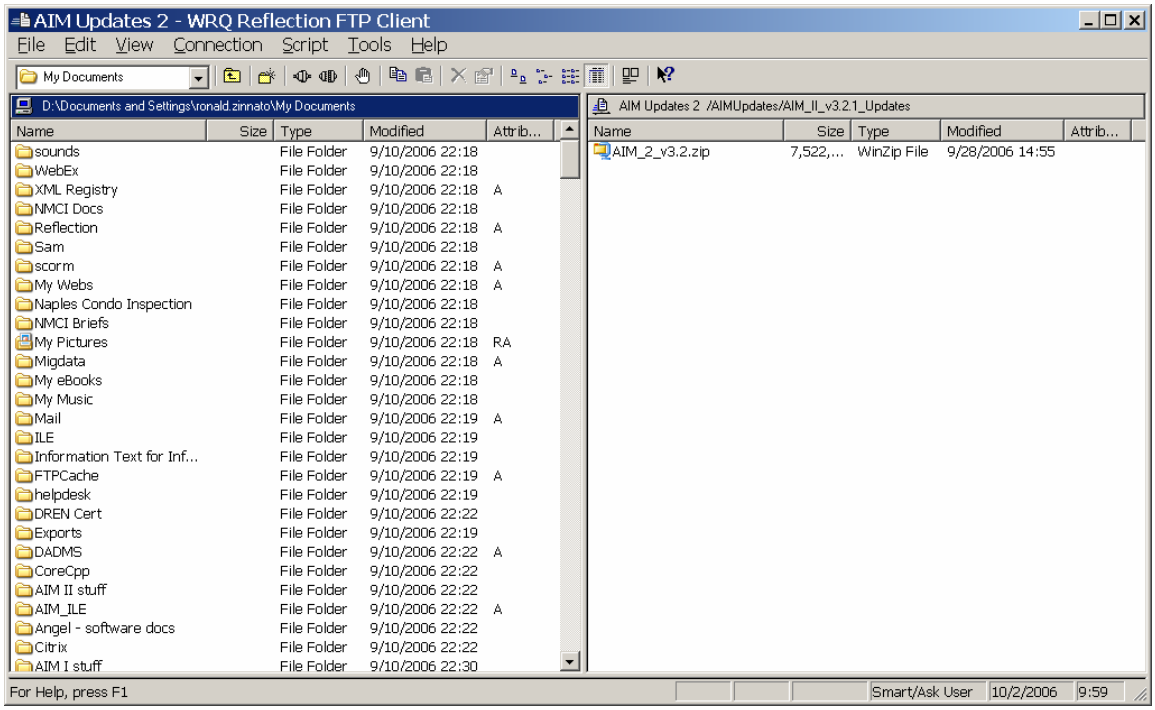
The next screen will ask for your user name. Type in “aimftp”. If you want, you can check the box that asks to save your password as encrypted text. If you do, type in “aimftp” in the password box. If you choose not to check the box, you will have to type the password in every time you connect. When you’re done with this screen, click “Next”

WRQ Reflection FTP
FTP User Login
What is your user name?
aimftp
Your password can be saved as encrypted text in the registry so that you do not have to enter it each time you connect to this site.
Save my password as encrypted text
What is your password?
< Back
Next >
Cancel

On the final screen, you are asked to provide a name for the site list (see the first picture in this section). By default, it will be called the name of the server. I chose to call it “Updates to AIM”. You can call it whatever you want. The next time you run the Reflection software, the “Updates to AIM” site will be listed in the site list, and you will just have to highlight it and click “Connect”. For now, make sure the “Yes” box is checked, and hit finish. This will log you into the FTP site.


WRQ Reflection FTP
Connect
WRQ Reflection FTP will add this site to your site list.
What name would you like to use for this FTP site?
Updates to AIM
Do you want to connect to this FTP site now?
Yes
No
< Back
Finish
Cancel

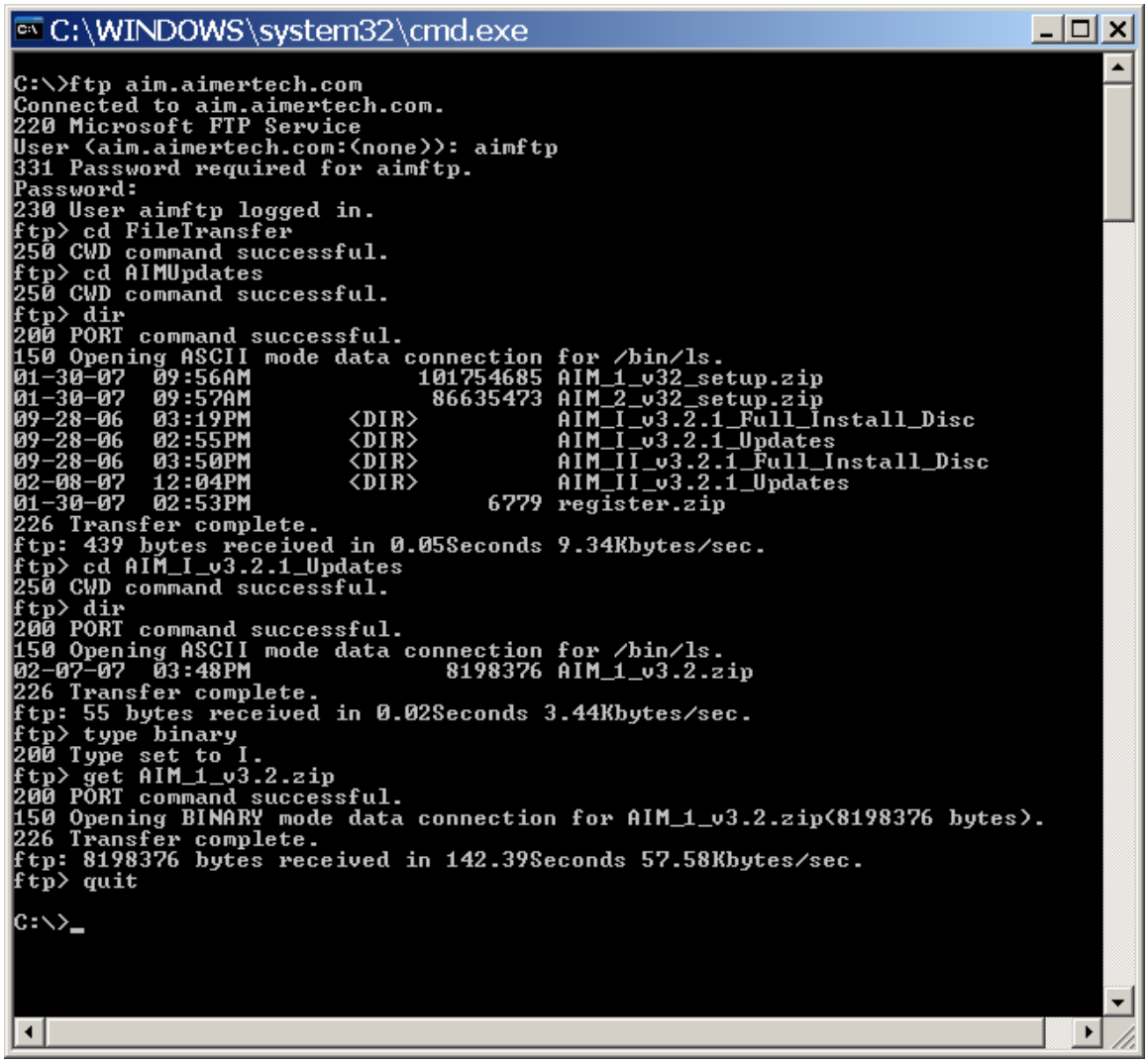
Once you connect, you are presented with a split screen. On the left will be the files on your computer, on the right will be the files on the FTP server. Navigating the FTP site is as simple as clicking on the folder you wish to go to.


AIM Updates 2 - WRQ Reflection FTP Client
File Edit View Connection Script Tools Help
My Documents
D:\Documents and Settings\ronald.zinnato\My Documents
Name Size Type Modified Attrib...
sounds File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
WebEx File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
XML Registry File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18 A
NMCI Docs File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
Reflection File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18 A
Sam File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
scorm File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18 A
My Webs File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18 A
Naples Condo Inspection File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
NMCI Briefs File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
My Pictures File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18 RA
Migdata File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18 A
My eBooks File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
My Music File Folder 9/10/2006 22:18
Mail File Folder 9/10/2006 22:19 A
ILE File Folder 9/10/2006 22:19
Information Text for Inf... File Folder 9/10/2006 22:19
FTPCache File Folder 9/10/2006 22:19 A
helpdesk File Folder 9/10/2006 22:19
DREN Cert File Folder 9/10/2006 22:22
Exports File Folder 9/10/2006 22:19
DADMS File Folder 9/10/2006 22:22 A
CoreCpp File Folder 9/10/2006 22:22
AIM II stuff File Folder 9/10/2006 22:22
AIM_ILE File Folder 9/10/2006 22:22 A
Angel - software docs File Folder 9/10/2006 22:22
Citrix File Folder 9/10/2006 22:22
AIM I stuff File Folder 9/10/2006 22:30
AIM Updates 2 /AIMUpdates/AIM_II_v3.2.1_Updates
Name Size Type Modified Attrib...
AIM_2_v3.2.zip 7,522,... WinZip File 9/28/2006 14:55
For Help, press F1
Smart/Ask User 10/2/2006 9:59

To get to the AIM updates, double click on “FileTransfer”, then “AIMUpdates” on the right hand side of the screen. Then select the subfolder you wish to got to. When you find the correct zip file to download, drag the zip file from the right side of the screen to the left hand side. This will download the file to your local machine.

Using the Command Prompt

In Windows, you need to open the Command Prompt. You can find the icon for this under the *Accessories* folder in the Start Menu. Once the Command Prompt window appears, type the command **ftp aim.aimertech.com** and hit return. When prompted, enter the user name and password (mentioned above).



In the above example, after logging in, I told it to "**cd FileTransfer**" which, for those of you who don't remember DOS (or Unix), changes the working directory to "**FileTransfer**". Next, I told it to "**cd AIMUpdates**", which is where the AIM Updates are located. Next, I performed a directory listing (**dir**) to see what was available.. Next, I changed my working directory to "**AIM_I_v3.2.1_Updates**" . Next, I performed a directory listing, to see what file(s) were available. I then told it "**type binary**". This tells the FTP program that the content of the file you are about to download is binary. This is important because by default FTP thinks you want to download text files. If you download a binary file in text mode, you'll get gibberish (that is if it doesn't bomb completely). The next command is "**get <filename>**", where **<filename>** is the name of the file you wish to download. *NOTE*: It may take quite a while to download the patch, depending on how fast your connection is. Please be patient. When it's done, use the command "**quit**". *NOTE*: The above example uses Version 3.2.1. The process will be the same for Version 3.3, however the filenames will be different.

If you are downloading an entire Install Disc, rather than just a patch file, there is a shortcut to downloading multiple files at once. In the above example, after changing into the appropriate directory, instead of typing "**get**

<filename>", you would type "**mget ***" in order to download multiple files (that is, **mget** followed by an asterisk). Once you have downloaded all of the Install Disc files, you can burn them to a CD from which you can install the AIM program.